# RUMOR OF BATTLE ON TUGELA

But No Confirmation from British War Office.

## NOT A WORD FROM BULLER,

Believed, However, That He Has Crossed with the Boers-Renewed Anxiety in London Is the Result.

London, Feb. 6, 4:48 p. m.-A special dispatch from Durban, Natal, says: "There is no definite news from Gen. Buller, but it is reported that there was heavy fighting yesterday."

#### Thursday's News.

Feb. 1.-The Boers were close behind Warren's division when it crossed the Tugela river to the south. They had succeeded in bringing up a fifteenpounder which they brought to bear on the last of the column, but without effect.

graph message from that city says that | ishes at several places. the Boers are in strong force on every side, and must have been strongly reenforced from the Transvaal.

Boers, seeing the terrific havoc wrought by their shells, called upon the British to surrender, which the latter refused to do, remaining under the raking fire

Gen. Buller in defending Thorneycroft for withdrawing from Spion Kop during Wednesday night says that the action was only taken after a loss of another day.

Buller's casualties in the turning movement are being issued in driblets.

The total so far announced is 1,400, A London paper received information from the Transvaal that the war department, convinced that it would be useless to storm Ladysmith and that the bombardment will continue ineffective, has decided upon a change of tactics. Huge quantities of timber and sand bags and hundreds of kaffirs have been sent from Johannesburg and Pretoria for the purpose of damming Klip river some miles below Ladysmith, the idea being to flood the town and to drive the soldiers and inhabitants out of the bombproof caves, so as to expose them to shell fire."

### Friday's News.

Feb. 2.—A dispatch has reached London that Gen. Buller has again sent his army across the Tugela river to the fighting is announced to have occurred all day yesterday. This news is not onfirmed by the war office.

Spearman's Camp is dated last Tuesday. On that day Buller sent a reconnoitering party to Honger's Spruit, which is west of Trichard's Drift, where Warren crossed. It is inferred from this that he may be trying to reach Ladysmith by making a wider detour to the west. It is thought in London that during the fighting at Spion Kop the weak point may have been found in the Boers' line of defense.

It is reported from Spearman's Camp that the Boers were preparing to withdraw from Spion Kop when the British left them the field by adandoning the crest.

Kelly-Kenny's command is active in Northern Cape Colony, and the burghers in the Stormberg district are preparing to meet his advance.

## Saturday's News.

A London expert says that he probably will march east along the northern bank of the Tugela river and try to the Drakensberg passes. His recons to be given in one year. Mr. Welch

they are only lightly held by the Boers. A British flying column has appeared entleman, and says he will make in Zululand and in making a rapid hariton county a desirable citizen. march through that country. Boers uch being the case, the COURIER will have been withdrawn from several positions near Ladysmith to meet it. Ate glad to have him locate in Chari-Vryheid they already have 1,000 menon county.

and three Maxims. Sensational rumors are afloat in Eng- A candy-bee was held at Howardtand that Lord Roberts has called fon ayne college in Fayette one night 90,000 more men, and that in order to get them it will be necessary to put the st week to which the students of militia ballot act in force, which entral college were invited. As a

Gen. Tucker has gone to Modder ature of the entertainment of the means conscription. river. As he commands the Seventhvening two young ladies came for-Division, it is thought that another aid and pinned on the lapel of the

Colonel Plumer as late as January 26ame of one of the United States and was at Gaberones. This indicates that rooted him to bent for the capital fit Mafeking has not yet been relieved. contained two rooms and an attle. The Mafeking has not yet been relieved.

Sunday's News. which Buller told his men he hoped to reach Ladysmith will expire.

The Boers in front of Methuen are still active. They are destroying another railroad. Thirty-seven heavy explosions were heard in the British camp yesterday.

Grand Haven, Mich., Feb. 5 .- An ice blockade prevails at Muskegon and Grand Haven. Not since Saturday has a steamer come in here, and only an easterly wind will break the blockade. The steamer Nyack is now in the ice | Mills, a barber, while atempting to off this port. The blockade is costing the transportation companies thousands of dollars,

## Cardinal Jacobini Dead.

to succeed Cardinal Parrocchia.

The unusually heavy censorship which has been apparent during the last few days is attributed to Kitchener

Monday's News.

Feb. 5.-Ladysmith is cheered by the sound of Buller's guns, telling that that general is again attempting to relieve the long-besieged town. He crossed the Tugela river Friday night and a battle was fought Saturday. The outcome of this fight is not yet known. "No defithe Tugela and Is Now in Battle nite news will be permitted to go out until Ladysmith is relieved," is the word from Durban, the cable station. Buller crossed probably near Trichard's Drift, and, leaving the Boers to the right, made for the Acton Homes road. One dispatch says he may reach Ladysmith; another that he surely will relieve the town this week.

Gen. Lord Roberts reports that the Mafeking garrison has become aggressive, advancing its trenches and forcing the Boers to abandon some of their positions and fall back.

The Cape Town Argus has a dispatch that Gens. French, Gatacre and Kelly-Kenny have 7,000 Boers practically cooped up in Northern Cape Colony. Since then they have renewed the Otherwise the fighting situation is unbombardment of Ladysmith. A helio- changed, with the exception of skirm-

A British correspondent writes to Cape Town that Free State leaders are inquiring what terms they could get if During the battle on Spion Kop, the they withdrew their aid from Kruger.

#### Tuesday's News.

Feb. 6.-Gens. Gatacre, French and Kelly-Kenny are developing a strong campaign against the Boer forces in northern Cape Colony.

An overwhelming force of infantry. it is announced, has been dispatched treaty, all the signatory nations bound by the British to seize Norvai's Pont. over forty per cent of his men, and It is also said that the Boer army in when he realized he could not hold out | Colesberg has been completely sur-

> The Boers in the Stormberg district are menaced by the British.

The war office announces that it has nothing for the public concerning the perations in Natal. A dispatch from Durban says that

neavy fighting has occurred along the Tugela, thus indicating that Gen. Buler has recrossed that stream. This is not confirmed.

Colonial Secretary Chamberlain, in a peech in the House of Commons, said that the critical stage of the war has been reached. He admits that the British are facing a serious crisis in South Africa.

### Wednesday's News.

Feb. 7.—Gen. MacDonald is leading a strong column against the right of the Boer position at Magersfontein.

The Boers, apparently not being engaged elsewhere in Natal, have resumed operations around Ladysmith. They north. The British, the report says, have opened a heavy bombardment of forded the stream at three points, and the besieged town, and the Long Tom Interest the heroic effort of the South is again active.

the movement of Gen. Buller, but Lord The last authoritative dispatch from Roberts reports the situation unchanged.

There is a report by way of Estcourt that the Boers east of Ladysmith are tive session and considered for an hour active, evidently in anticipation of an the international peace treaty, but attack from Buller in that direction. No dispatches reflecting on the movement of the British in the Colesberg until Monday. district have been permitted to reach

the public. Young Mr. Hay, the new United States consul at Pretoria, has reached his post, and has created a favorable

impression. In the House of Commons a vote was reached on Lord Fitzmaurie's jamendment to the speech in reply to the speech from the throne, and the government was overwhelmingly sustained.

## Scoffs at British Shells.

brecht of the Boer army has written to Boers north of the Tugela river at once. | regarding the deadly effect of modern

artillery. He says: "Day before yesterday we battered Buller and scarcely fired a single shell, cut through at some point. A dispatch | What the British use are not worthy from Spearman's Camp indicates that the name of cannons. Out of 100 shells Gen. Buller also may try a dash through | fired by the British not ten exploded

noisances have developed the fact that epresents Mr. Olden as being a nice

10,000 men will be sent to re-enforce pat of each young gentleman the Methuen.

children were left alone in one of the rooms before an open fire. The mother Feb. 4.-Today the week within had gone to the woods to get firewood, and as she was about to idirn she saw the house was on fire. She rushed back and tried to rescue the children, badly burning herself in the attempt. Soon the house was in ashes. The bodies were recovered Friday. were burned beyond recognition.

> Youngstown, Ohio, Feb. 5 .-- Fire which originated in McElroy's furniture rooms in the business portion of the town Friday morning destroyed property valued at \$500,000. Daniel save his employer's effects, fell dead from heart trouble.

Mr. Macrum in New York.

fused to be interviewed.

Provisions of the Hague Treaty Stand in the Way.

## FINANCIAL BILL CALLED UP. Senators Are Not Yet Ready for It

However-Quay Case Comes Up Next Wednesday - Pettigrew to Talk for

Washington, Feb. 5 .- A persistent and perhaps concerted effort is being made to induce the government to take the first step toward a practical application of the mediation provisions of The Hague conference treaty to the war between Great Britain and the Boer republics. Not only are resolutions adopted by public meetings and by permanent organizations looking to that end being received at the state department, but the president and the secretary of state are getting scores of letters from individuals all over the country urging the administration to seek to bring about the termination of the bloody struggle.

The statement attributed to Senator Mason of Illinois that Montagu White, the Transvaal's private agent in America, has been informed by the secretary of state that this government could not offer mediation because The Hague treaty had not been ratified by the United States senate, does not fully or fairly represent the position of the government in the matter. In the the uselves to an observance of an international rule of which little has been said and its importance and extent almost entirely overlooked.

At 2 o'clock the financial bill was laid before the senate, but no senator was ready to speak on it.

Mr. Chandler, chairman of the committee on privileges and elections, gave notice that he would call up the Quay case on Monday next, but after some colloquy he changed the notice till Wednesday next.

The resolution offered yesterday by Mr. Pettigrew for the printing of a paper entitled "The Philippine Commission" was laid before the senate, the presiding officer, Mr. Frye, stating that it would go to the committee on print-

A number of minor bills were passed, among them one making the salary of the postmaster of Washington, D. C., \$6,000 per year, and another appropriting \$60,000 for a military hospital at Fort Leavenworth.

Mr. Pettigrew offered a resolution declaring that, "We watch with deep African republics against cruelty and The war office is silent concerning oppression, and our best hopes go out for the full accomplishment of their liberties." He gave notice that he would speak on it next Monday.

The senate at 2:50 went into executook no action on it. At 4:05 the doors were opened and the senate adjourned

## Work Done in the House.

The senate bill authorizing the treasury officials to abate light and tonnage duties on vessels flying the Cuban flag was passed by the house. Most of the afternoon was spent in consideration of the Indian appropriation bill in committee of the whole, without completing it.

The house held a night session, but nothing was done. Mr. Talbert of South Carolina demanded the presence Berlin, Feb. 6.-Commandant Al- of a quorum, saying no pension bill should pass the house without a quo-Jan. 3.—Gen. Buller, it is reliably re- a friend at Magdeburg criticising rum. This stopped all proceeding and ported, has been ordered to attack the | Block's book, with which he disagrees | at 10 o'clock p. m. the house adjourned.

#### INDIANS DYING BY DOZENS. Fatal Smallpox Epidemic on Colville Reservation.

Tacoma, Wash., Feb. 5.-Smallpox is killing Indians in dozens in the Colville reservation. The mining town of Republic, on the northern part of the reservation, has armed men guarding every trail leading from the south, to prevent infected Indians getting entrance and spreading the disease. Conditions among the Indians are appalling. Despite the heroic efforts of the reservation physician, eight to twelve Indians are dying daily. It means death for an Indian to attempt to force his way north from the stricken districts. Several have attempted it, but were turned back after looking down the barrels of Winchester rifles.

## Shot Down on the Road.

Whitesville, Ky., Feb. 5 .- William S. Wright, one of the most influential and popular men in Letcher county. was assinated on Boone creek, about twelve miles from this place, Thursday night. Five balls from a Winchester rifle pierced his body, either of which would have proved

Two More Islands Are Taken. Manila, Feb. 5, 6 p. m.-Brig.-Gen. Kobbe has occupied the islands of Samar and Leyte. In the fight at Tacloban ten insurgents were killed and the Americans captured five cannon with their artillerymen.

## PRITCHARD IN THE RACE.

North Carolina's Senator Is a Candidate for the Vice-Presidency.

Raleigh, N. C., Feb. 5.-Senator John C. Pritchard will go to the republican national convention with the southern delegates practically unanimous for him for the nomination for vice-president. Vice-President Mitchell of the New York, Feb. 6.—Charles Everson | National Republican league, who has | New York, Feb. 5.—The fine form of Rome, Feb. 3.—Cardinal Jacobini is | Macrum, former United States consul- | letters from prominent republican | late shown by Gus Ruhlin has encourdead. He has been ill for several general at Pretoria, arrived here Sun- leaders in every southern state agree- aged his manager, Billy Madden, to weeks of nephritic diabetes. Last No- day with his wife and daughter, on the ing to support Mr. Pritchard for the seek higher game. The latter will now vember he was made cardinal vicer American steamer St. Paul. He re- vice-presidential nomination, is au- make an effort to get on a match for thority for this statement.

# BOERS START PRAIRIE FIRE.

Feared They Hope to Make a Cour Under Cover of Smoke. Modder River, Feb. 5.-A great fire

has been burning along the veldt since 3 o'clock Wednesday afternoon. It is two miles in length and extends along the plain between Jacobsdal and Kop-

Some of the British officers believe that it was started by the Boers to screen the movements of some of their forces, who have been summoned to the eastward. The fire burned all night, and it is believed that under cover of the smoke some of the recent re-enforcements that have arrived at Magersfontein marched in the direction of the Barkly West and Komdodsberg districts.

The British long-range artillery on the left front threw shells in the direction of the Boer position. The Boers shelled the British from the west for half an hour in the forenoon, probably to cover the movement referred to. Their shells hit nobody. The Boer

losses, if any, are unknown. The British troops here are eager for an aggressive movement to begin.

Fever Still at Ladysmith. The war office announces that there were twenty deaths from disease at Ladysmith on Feb. 1.

What is happening on the Tugela river is still unrevealed. The rumor that Gen. Buller has again crossed the river is neither confirmed nor denied. The war office issues nothing and the censor looks after the correspondents. The latest dispatch from Spearman's camp is dated Jan. 31. It says:

"Today passed quietly with the exception of the firing of a few shells from Mount Alice at the Boer positions opposite Potgieter's drift. The troops have quite recovered from their last week's fighting and are eager to resume. It is rumored in camp that the Drakensberg passes are only slightly held, and the opportunity is likely to be availed for a dash of cavalry and horse artillery."

#### Rations Reduced.

The latest detailed news from Mafeking is dated Jan. 17, and was sent by way of Gaberones. It shows that there had been no encounters beyond the usual long-range firing. Rations had been reduced and horses had been deprived of their oats, which were being stored for future consumption by the inhabitants of the town. Matches and all the canned meat in the place had been commandeered. The theft of these artices, even of a singe box of matches, was treated as a serious crime. The people were cheerful, with the exception of a few grumblers,

Found Maxims Demoralizing. London, Feb. 5 .- The first batch of wounded men belonging to the naval contingent serving in South Africa arrived in England Friday. They are mostly skilled gunners. They say that the Boers' Maxim-Nordenfeldt onepound quick-firing guns have a most demoralizing effect on the British. These guns are made in England, but they are not supplied to the British

# BLOWS NOSE, EYE POPS OUT.

James H. Finigan of Cleveland Has &

Novel Experience. Cleveland, Chio, Feb. 5 .- James H. Finigan, superintendent of the shipping department of Sterling, Welch & Co., has had a most remarkable experience. Tuesday evening Finigan was assisting in entertaining company at his home on Melvin street. He took his handkerchief from his pocket and blew his nose. Those present were horrified to see Fningan's left eye pop from its socket and hang by the ligaments down his cheek. One young

woman fainted. Finigan pushed the eye back into the socket, and in doing so carried the eyeild in with it. He was blind for the time being, and the pain was intense. A physician was called, but he refused to handle the case. Dr. D. E. Smith was then summoned. Finigan was removed to the Cleveland general hospital, where Dr. Smith took the eye out again and replaced it properly. Finigan is now able to be at work; the

eye is bandaged. Finigan says: "My physician tells me that I will be able to remove the bandage over my eye in a day or two. I take it off once in a while row. I do not dare blow my nose for fear the eye will pop out

The case among oculists is said to ba one of the strangest on record.

#### CHILDREN BURN TO DEATH, Four Lose Their Lives by Fire at Lewisboro, N. Y.

White Plains, N. Y., Feb. 5 .- Four children, the eldest 5 years old, were burned to death at noon Thursday at Lewisboro, about two miles east of Cross river. A farm laborer, Warren E. Wims, with his wife, Lida, and their four children lived in a house which contained two rooms and an attic. The children were left alone in one of the rooms before an open fire. The mother had gone to the woods to get firewood, and as she was about to return she saw the house was on fire. She rushed back and tried to rescue the children, badly burning herself in the attempt. Soon the house was in ashes. The bodies were recovered Friday. were burned beyond recognition.

Milwaukee Man Honored. Milwaukee, Feb. 5.-George N. Wiswell of this city has been chosen by Chairman J. H. Manley of the subcommittee of the republican national committee for sergeant-at-arms of the national convention which will be held in Philadelphia.

Ruhlin May Fight Sharkey.

his protege with Tom Sharkey.

## THE MARKET REPORT.

A Summarized Report Intended to Cover the Prevailing Conditions. GRAIN-

St. Louis.

Wheat-No. 2 red 7134; No. 2 hard 88; farey 681/4; No. 2 spring 68. Corn-No. 2 mixed 31; No. 3 mixed 31; No. 2 white 32 1/4; No. 3 white 32. Oats-No.2 mixed 2434; No. 2 northern 25; No. 2 white 26; No. 4 white 2436.

Rye-No. 2 52. Chicago,

Wheat-No. 2 spring 66; No. 3 spring 64; No. 2 red, 70. Corn-No. 2 311/4; No. 2 yellow, 311/4. Oats-No. 2 23; No. 2 white, 25 1/4 @26; No. 3 white, 25%. Rye-No. 2 521/4. Barley-No. 2 +3.

Kansas City. Wheat-No. 2 hard 63; No. 2 red, 71; No. 3 69. Corn-No. 2 mixed, 2816; No. 3 30;

No. 2 white, 30. Oats-No. 2 white 24; No. 2 mixed 23. Rye-No. 2 51.

New York. Wheat-No. 2 red 77. Corn-No. 2 40 14. Oats-No. 2 29 %; No. 2 white 31 14.

## LIVE STOCK-

Rye-No. 2 61.

St. Louis, Cattle-Medium beef steers 4,30@5,95 lights\$3.85@4.75; butcher cows and heifers \$2.30@4.17; stockers and feeders \$3.@4.25; veal calves \$5.25@7.00; bulls

Hogs-General stock \$3.80@4.65; pigs and lights \$3.50@3.85; medium weights \$3.55@4.15; heavy culls \$3.50@3.75.

Sheep-Good to choice lambs are quotable at \$3.85@\$4.55; good to best sheep at \$3.50 to \$4.30; stockers at \$3.75 to \$3.10 and bucks at \$1.75 to \$3.50. Chicago.

Cattle-General stock \$6.25@6 50; light weights \$5.25@5.50; heavies \$4.6) @5.95; medium cows \$3.25@5.10; fat heifers \$4@4.85; bulls \$2.75@3.93. Hogs-Medium and butchers' stock

\$3.85@4.10; best heavy \$4.35@4.90; poor to fancy \$3 80@4.10. Sheep-Good to choice \$3.75@5.15;

#### choice lambs \$6.00@6.30. Kansas City,

Cattle-Native beef steers \$5.25 @ 75; medium weight steers \$4.80@5.40; light weights, \$4.90@5.20 stockers and feeders \$3.50@5.30; butcher cows and heifers, \$3.20@4.50; canners \$2.35@3.15 bulls, \$2,50@3,10.

Hogs-Heavy \$4.15@4.75; mixed \$4.10 @4.70; light weights \$3.25@3.95 Sheep-Lambs \$4.40 @4.80; muttons

\$3.60@3.80 stockers \$3@4.15

Cattle-Steers \$4.70@5.60; oxen and

stags \$3.40@4.75; bulls \$3.75@4.00 Veals \$5@7. Hogs-General stock \$4.69@4.85; choice state hogs \$5, 25. Sheep-Muttons 83@4.75; choice and

### export \$4.55@5. lambs \$6.50@8. General Produce Prices.

Butter-Elgin 24; dairy 22@23%; country store packed 15; inferior 13. Eggs-Firm at 12@13.

Hay-Choice prairie \$6.00; timothy \$8,00@9,00; clover \$9.50 Lard-Good country lard 4@514c.

## Live Poultry-Chickens 614: ducks 7 geese 514; turkeys 7; pigeons 50c per

CONDENSED TELEGRAMS. Representatives of religious and reform organizations were heard by the house committee on judiciary at Washington in argument for a constitutional amendment to prohibit polygamy.

The actions looking to the appointment of a receiver for the Brooklyn warf and warehouse company, which defaulted on the payment of interest on its bonds, have been discontinued by consent of the attorneys on both sides.

Sec. Hay has received assurances from all the South American countries which have diplomatic representatives in Washington of the favorable reception by them of President McKinley's suggestion that a congress of Pan-American nations be reconvened, preferably at the city of Mexico.

Two attendants at a medical college in Baltimore, named Denine and Rupp, were arrested charged with having shipped the corpse which was received recently in Sioux City, Ia., in a packing box. The police claim the men sold the body, which was that of a tramp,

instead of delivering it to the college. Admiral Dewey appeared before the house committee on pensions in behalf of the bills before that committee to pension the widow of Capt. Charles V. Gridley, of the Olympia, at the rate of \$200 per month; the widow of Commander E. P. Wood, of the Petrel, at \$100 a month, and the mother of the late Lieut. Thomas H. Brumby, Admiral Dewey's flag lieutenant, at \$50

Judge W. T. Newman of Atlanta declined to take jurisdiction in the habeas corpus proceedings in the case of R. A. Williams, better known as "Peg Leg" Williams, the emigrant agent, and remanded him into the custody of the sheriff of Morgan county, Ga. Judge Newman held that the state courts should pass upon the case. It is expected an effort will be made to carry the case to the Supreme Court. Williams was arrested several weeks ago for violating the state emigrant law.

Ali Forrouth Bey, Turkish minister to the United States, with his wife, sailed from Havre for New York last week on board the French line steamer La Gascogne.

President Steyn and President Kruger have communicated with Field Marshal Lord Roberts, the British commander-in chief, protesting against the destruction of farmhouses and the devastation of property. Lord Roberts, in replying, declared the charges were not sustained, adding that wanton destruction of property was contrary to British practices.

PRESIDENT KRUEGER AHEAD. Pretoria, Transvaal, South Africa, Dec. 7, 1899.

Messrs, Swanson Rheumatic Cure Company, Chicago, Ill., U. S. A .- Gentlemen: Your last shipment and communication received. I am very much pleased with the information which you have so kindly given me.

Please find enclosed bank draft to the amount of £412 10s, for which send me twenty-five (25) gross of Swanson's "5-DROPS." Ship same as before in order that there may be no delay, as this medicine will be greatly needed before it reaches us. The last shipment is almost disposed of, as the medical department of our army uses large quantities. This order is entirely for use in the army. I have been told that our success

on the battlefield is due to a certain extent to the use of "5-DROPS" Rheumatic Cure, which has relieved and prevented a great deal of suffering among our men from Rheumatism, Neuralgia and other acute pains caused by exposure. Your "5-DROPS" is as good as a Transvaal soldier!

In one of the battles, a small quantity of "5-DROPS," together with other medicines, was captured by the English, which was a great loss to our men. The Ruinecks won't do it again. I am, respectfully yours,

PETER HAAS. "5-DROPS" is the most powerful specific known. Free from opiates and perfectly harmless. It is a perfect cure for Rheumatism, Sciatica, Neuralgia, Dyspepsia, Backache, Asthma, Catarrh, La Grippe, Neuralgic Headache, etc. Large sized bottles (300 doses), \$1.00, or three (3) bottles for \$2.50. Sample bottles 25 cents. SWANSON RHEUMATIC CURE CO.,

160 to 164 E. Lake St., Chicago, Ill. Murdered Rulers of Russia.

Of the eleven emperors and empress-

es of Russia between Peter I. and Alexander II, four have been assassinated. WESTERN CANADA.

Crop Prospects and Climate About Ede monton, N. W. T .- Interesting Letter from Mrs. S. A. Brigham, Late

of Mason City. The following extracts from an interesting letter to the Mason City (Ia.) Republican, written by Mrs. S. A. Brigham, late of that place, but now of Ross Creek, Alberta, Canada, so near-Western Canada that we take pleasure in presenting same to the attention of cur readers: Ross Creek, Albert, N. W. T., Canada,

Aug. 7, 1899. Editor Mason City Republican-Dear Sir: We are located in the Beaver Hills, 30 miles from Ft. Saskatchewan and 50 miles from Edmonton. To the east of these is an immense area of bottom lands, which furnishes abund-

ance of hay for the settlers. It is dotted with small lakes, the largest of which is called Beaver Lake, 16 miles in length. The Beaver Hills are covered with small green willows which are easily gotten rid of before breaking up the land. Here and there poplar, birch and tamarack trees abound. Small

meadows are numerous. The soil in these hills is much richer than the bottom lands, being a kind of black leaf mould. There is no tough sod to break, and it is very productive. Wheat, oats and barley do finely and vegetables are the finest that can be grown. Potatoes especially are large and solid, easily producing from 200 to 300 bushels per acre, and best of all never a "taty bug" to wrestle with. Wild fruit, strawberries, gooseberries, saskatoons (or pine berries), raspberries and cranberries, are found in the hills. Small tame fruit does finely, the red and white currants in my garden are as large again as common sized

We have long days during the months of June and July; one can see to read many evenings until 10 o'clock in the twilight. Some nights less than 3 hours of darkness, and the birds are singing at 2 o'clock. Then again, it rains so easily. You look toward the west and see a little cloud coming up. a gentle shower follows, the sun shines forth again, and in a little while you forget it has rained.

Cyclones are unknown here and the thunder and lightning is very light. We had two storms this summer accompanied with wind and hail, but nothing to lodge the grain. The average heat is about 78 degrees. We had three or four days in July at 90. The nights are always cool.

The winter season is one of great activity. All the fencing is gotten out then and logs for the farm buildings. By paying 25 cents you are granted a permit at the land office to cut logs upon vacant lands. The roads are good and smooth, for the snow never drifts, not even around the buildings, and this is a great saving of time to the farmer. Hay is hauled from the bottom lands all winter long, and a man can work outside every day as far as the weather is concerned. There are cold snaps when it reaches 40 and 48 below zero, but the lack of wind prevents one realizing it and the mountains 150 miles west of us are a great protection. Our neighbors are mostly Canadian, Scotch, Swede, and we have a nice sprinkling of people from the states. The creeks abound in small

We are now in the midst of haymaking (Aug. 7). Wheat will not be cut until early September, this being a little later season than common, but the crop will be immense. I send you a sample of wheat and barley-its height is almost even with my shoulders, average 50 inches. New comers lacking binders can hire their grain cut for 75 cents per acre. Prairie chickens are here by the thousands.

The water is good. We have a fine well 15 feet deep. In the creeks the water is soft and of a yellowish color. Now for the drawbacks (we have them), but nothing very serious. The mosquitoes are simply abominable, especially after a shower. Then again we are surrounded with bachelors; we have no less than 18 single men in this neighborhood, on matrimony bent. When a feminine gender of any age between 14 and 40 visits these hills we pity her, so great is the demand for

her company. In conclusion, if the remainder of our loved ones were here with us, we should better enjoy life on Ross Creek, and unless the unexpected develops, consider this will be a pretty fair place

to end our days. MRS. S. A. BRIGHAM.